

HOUSE BILL NO. 280

INTRODUCED BY C. HUNTER

A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT SPECIFYING THAT NEW COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTERS MAY RECEIVE STATE FUNDING FOR A MAXIMUM OF 6 YEARS; ~~TRANSFERRING GENERAL FUND MONEY;~~ AMENDING SECTION 50-4-805, MCA; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE."

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:

Section 1. Section 50-4-805, MCA, is amended to read:

"50-4-805. Program expenditures -- report to legislature. (1) Subject to appropriation by the legislature, the department shall provide competitive grants in accordance with 50-4-806 and this section to community or tribal boards operating as a nonprofit entity in accordance with the Public Health Service Act, 42 U.S.C. 254b, to increase access to primary care and preventive health services for uninsured, underinsured, low-income, or underserved Montanans.

(2) Grants must be made each year to accomplish any of the following goals:

(a) to create and support new nonfederally funded community health centers with state funding for a maximum of 6 years or until federal funds are granted. Successful applicants for the state grants shall also apply for federally qualified health center look-alike status and federal community health center grants at the first available opportunity.

(b) to expand the medical, mental health, or dental services offered by existing federally qualified community health centers or other facilities that have received federally qualified health center look-alike status; and

(c) to provide one-time grants for capital expenditures to existing federally qualified community health centers and facilities with federally qualified health center look-alike status.

(3) The department shall contract with an entity that is able to:

(a) provide technical assistance to new and existing federally qualified community health centers in their efforts to apply for federal funds;

(b) assist new and existing centers in their efforts to expand services; and

(c) collect standardized data on the provision of services to low-income and uninsured Montanans.

(4) The department shall require the contractor to provide an annual report on the services it has provided, the data it has collected, and the status of applications for federal community health center funding.

(5) (a) The department shall provide regular interim reports on the status of the program and program expenditures to the legislative finance committee and the children, families, health, and human services interim committee.

(b) The department shall report to the legislature, as provided for in 5-11-210, the following information for each year of the biennium:

(i) the status of the expenditures made pursuant to this part;

(ii) the number of people served by the expenditure of funds; and

(iii) the costs to the state of the services provided pursuant to this part."

~~NEW SECTION. Section 2. Fund transfer. There is transferred \$650,000 from the general fund to the community health center special revenue account for each year of the biennium beginning July 1, 2009.~~

NEW SECTION. Section 2. Notification to tribal governments. The secretary of state shall send a copy of [this act] to each tribal government located on the seven Montana reservations and to the Little Shell Chippewa tribe.

NEW SECTION. Section 3. Effective date. [This act] is effective July 1, 2009.

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